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(71) *Applicant (for all designated States except US): KALOTI-HOS, Spiros [AU/AU]; 89-91 City Road, Southbank, Victoria 3006 (AU).*

(71) **Applicant and**
(72) **Inventor: SYMONS, Ian, Robert [AU/AU]; 185 Ma-**
honeys Road, Woodend, Victoria 3442 (AU).

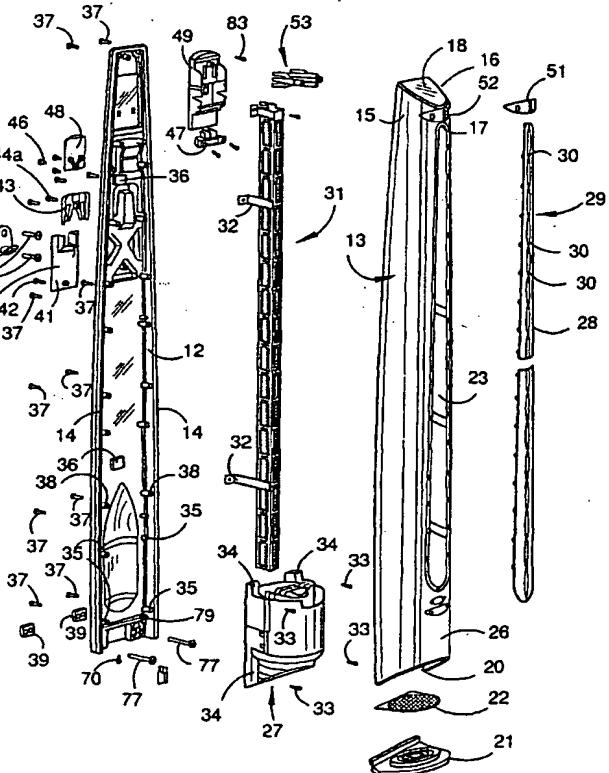
(74) Agent: GRIFFITH HACK; 509 St Kilda Road, Melbourne, Victoria 3004 (AU).

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(54) Title: BODY DRYER



(57) **Abstract:** A body dryer (10) is shown which comprises a housing (11) in which a fan assembly (27) is supported at a lower end of the housing (11). The housing (11) also contains an elongated heating element (31) which extends substantially parallel to an outlet aperture (29) which is in the form of a long slot extending substantially from one end of the dryer to the other end. Hot air is drawn into the housing (11) by fan assembly (27) through inlet (20), over heating element (31) and forced out of the slot (29) in the form of a thin blade of air surrounded by a buttress of colder air from outside the heater (31) which envelopes around the user's body to dry the user's body. The heating element (31) comprises a pair of heating coils (122, 123) supported in a frame (121) and the fan assembly (27) has an inner housing (94) supported within an outer housing (90) and wings (98, 99) for converting a vortex type air flow created by the fan unit (27) into a laminar air flow for flow over the heating element (31) and out of the apertures (29). Operation of the dryer (10) is by way of actuation which causes light signals supplied by a light conductor (53) to be detected by a circuit board (37) for controlling the dryer (10). The dryer (10) is mounted on a wall in a vertical disposition with the slot (29) and heating element (31) arranged substantially vertically.